

REMARKS

If the Examiner believes that any unresolved issues still exist, the Examiner should telephone Mr. George Wolken, Jr. Esq. at (408) 567-0340 so that the issues can be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

B. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

2. Claim 8

MPEP § 2143.03 states, "If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious." (citations omitted). Thus, since claim 1 is not taught or suggested in the prior art by a single reference or a combination of references, applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 depending from claim 1 and intervening claims 6 and 7, is nonobvious and patentable.

Applicants regret this oversight.

Respectfully submitted,

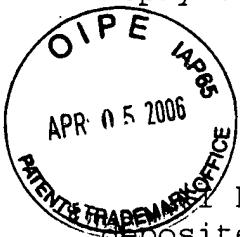


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on March 30, 2006 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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